

## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/763,678	06/04/2001	Henry Guy Stevens	9281	
7590 01/16/2004			EXAMINER	
Martin G Linihan			REDDICK, MARIE L	
Hodgson Russ LLP One M&T Plaza Suite 2000			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
Buffalo, NY 14203-2391			1713	

DATE MAILED: 01/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.





## UNITED STATE PEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE U.S. Patent and Pademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

				GL
APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	
			EXAMINER	
•		•		
			ART UNIT	PAPER

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## **Commissioner for Patents**

12

The amendment filed on 04/07/03 canceling all claims drawn to the elected invention and presenting only claims drawn to a non-elected invention is non-responsive (MPEP § 821.03). The remaining claims are not readable on the elected invention because the originally presented claims((35-64) per the Preliminary Amendment of paper no. 5, 06/04/01 were drawn to a polymer feedstock in the form of a cold-pressed tablet or pellet comprising a blend of at least PVA and up to 5% by weight of lubricant. The newly presented claims are drawn to a filled PVA-containing composition comprising, in percentages by weight, PVA, plasticizer, internal lubricant, external lubricant and a filler(claims 66-77, 82-91 & 93) and a method of making a composition(claims 78-81 & 92). The inventions are separate and distinct, each from the other, as per such being related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship. Presumably a reaction takes place upon formation of the tablet or pellet engendering a final product substantially different from the intermediate product, i.e., the intermediate product looses its identity upon formation of the final product.

Since the above-mentioned amendment appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to reply, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this notice within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) ARE AVAILABLE.

Judy M. Reddick Primary Examiner Art Unit: 1713